

PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER January, 2025



“Truly, Truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Jn 3:3

January 1 is a reminder of new beginnings. There would be no beginning for any of us if it were not for God! God is the Author of life, and no life is a mistake. Life comes from God. Paul said, “For in Him we live and move and have our being.” John 10:10 says why Jesus came to earth, “I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly.” What a great promise!

In my December newsletter I wrote about Joey who had trusted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. During the next few weeks after trusting Christ, we had some good talks about knowing and growing in the Lord. We talked about baptism and what it meant. Joey asked, “Can I get baptized?” I had the privilege of baptizing him a few weeks later! It was not long before Joey was transferred to another location.

I have known Jacob for several years and he has had his good times and some bad times due to the choices he has made. He has been in Administrative Segregation for about six months and he is really growing spiritually. A year or more ago he mentioned that he was in touch with his biological father. They were talking often on the phone. His father did not know Christ, but enjoyed riding motorcycle with his stepmom. He had been praying for his dad to know Jesus, but he was not interested at the time. The other day when I visited Jacob he told me, “I have some good news from my father. My dad and stepmom were riding his motorcycle, and they rode

by a small church that caught their attention. They started attending that church and he gave his life to Christ! My dad and stepmom are baking goodies and bringing them to the church members!” I asked Jacob, “When was the last time your dad attended church?” He said, “Never!” Praise the Lord for saving Jacob’s dad, but the answer to his prayer also helped build Jacob’s faith!

I visited with Bradley several times. The last time I visited with him, I asked, “How was your life growing up?” Bradley said, “I was adopted by some good people, and they were good parents. The hard part is that my birth mother and father didn’t want me. After I was born I was left to die, but someone found me. I got adopted a short time after that. I am thankful for my adopted parents.” Then I asked him if he had any anger against his biological parents. Bradley went on to tell me, “Yes, I do, against my mother for leaving me to die!” Bradley is in his fifties and was still holding a grudge against his biological mother. Since he is a Christian, I talked about Bible verses that refer to anger and bitterness. He recognized that his anger was like cancer, keeping him in bondage. Bradley asked, “Can we pray about me forgiving my mother and giving it all to the Lord?” He asked the Lord to forgive him for his unforgiveness and that the Lord would bless his biological mother. After the prayer Bradley had a smile on his face and told me, “It feels like a burden lifted.” PTL!

It is getting more difficult lately for me to go cell to cell because of the prison rules. Please pray for that to change. I know it is a spiritual battle going on.

I thank God for all your support! Blessings in 2025!
In Christ,
Harlan

Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Send them to: Prison Lighthouse Fellowship (PLF) or South Dakota Prison Chaplain’s Association (SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org